

PATENT

Application No.: 09/736,382

Atty. Dkt. No. TVGWGATE5-14

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously presented) A method for navigating video images, comprising:
receiving, by a cable headend, a navigation command initiated from a remote control associated with a set top box, the navigation command including a requested direction and being associated with a selected object on a video image, the video image having a plurality of frames corresponding to HTML frames in at least one web page, the frames being independently controllable sections in the web page, the video image being presented on a display device associated with the set top box, the selected object being within a first frame on the video image;

determining, by the cable headend, whether the selected object is located at an edge of the first frame in the requested direction;

providing navigation on the display device, the navigation being in the requested direction from the selected object in the first frame to a same-frame object that is also in the first frame, when the selected object is not located at an edge of the first frame in the requested direction; and

providing navigation on the display device, the navigation being in the requested direction from the selected object in the first frame to a different-frame object in a second frame, when the selected object is located at an edge of the first frame in the requested direction, the second frame being in the requested direction from the first frame.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein determining whether the selected object is located at the edge of the first frame is performed by a directional guide mapping application in the cable headend.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the directional guide mapping application is for generating direction guide maps and for comparing the

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requested direction to an edge of frame indication associated with the selected object in the directional guide maps.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the selected object is located at the edge of the first frame, if the requested direction matches the edge of frame indication.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the second frame is determined by a browser processing controller in the cable headend by searching the directional guide maps to locate a particular directional guide map that is adjacent to the first frame in the requested direction from the selected object.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the browser processing controller determines the particular directional guide map based on a comparison of geometries of the first frame and the second frame.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the directional guide maps are linked in an order corresponding to each web page.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the different-frame object is the object in the second frame that is closest to the selected object in the first frame.

24. (Previously presented) A system for navigating video images, comprising:
a browser application for generating at least one image for a video display, the browser application including memory and a processing controller, the image including at least one web page having a plurality of frames, the frames being independently controllable sections in the web page, the frames having edges, each frame having at least one object within its edges;

a directional guide mapping application for generating directional guide maps and for providing navigation signals to the browser application, the directional guide

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maps including linkage between objects and edge of frame indicators associated with objects in frames, the navigation signals including instructions for navigating between frames using edge of frame indicators;

a cable headend for receiving and transmitting video programming and Internet-based information including the at least one web page, the cable headend including the browser application and the directional guide mapping application;

a plurality of set top boxes for receiving the video programming and Internet-based information; and

a cable distribution network for linking the cable headend to the set top boxes.

25. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24, wherein each set top box further comprises:

a decoder for decoding the video programming and Internet-based information;

and

a navigation application for requesting information and controlling navigation by sending commands to the cable headend.

26. (Previously presented) The system of claim 25, further comprising:

a keyboard linked to at least one set top box for requesting navigation on the video display through the navigation application.

27. (Previously presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the keyboard includes a means for activating mouse functionality, mouse functionality being mouse-type navigation requests resulting from at least one key or button selection from the keyboard, the operation of at least a portion of the keyboard changing operation after mouse functionality is activated.

28. (Previously presented) The system of claim 25, further comprising:

a remote control in communication with at least one set top box for requesting navigation on the video display.

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29. (Previously presented) The system of claim 28, wherein the remote control includes a means for activating mouse functionality, mouse functionality being mouse-type navigation requests resulting from at least one key or button selection from the remote control, the operation of at least a portion of the remote control changing operation after mouse functionality is activated.
30. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24, wherein at least one set box includes memory for storing at least a portion of the directional guide maps.
31. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the memory of the browser application stores the directional guide maps.
32. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24, further comprising:
a display device linked to at least one set top box for presenting the video display.
33. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein said mouse functionality being activated in response to a selection of a predetermined key for more than a threshold amount of time.